United Nations E/ICEF/2003/P/L.18

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
25 July 2003

Original: English

For action

United Nations Children's Fund
Executive Board
Second regular session 2003
15-19 September 2003
Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

Recommendation for approval of additional regular resources for approved country programmes

Summary

The estimated funding target and financial plan contained in the medium-term strategic plan (MTSP) for the period 2002-2005 (E/ICEF/2001/13 and Corr.1) was approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session of 2001 (E/ICEF/2001/6, and decision 2001/22). Planning levels for regular resources for country programmes are established on the basis of the approved MTSP, taking into account the latest projections of income and expenditure.

The regular resources indicative planning levels for 2004-2006 have been computed using the modified regular resources allocation system described in document E/ICEF/1997/P/L.17 and Corr.1 and approved by the Executive Board at its 1997 annual session (E/ICEF/1997/12/Rev.1, decision 1997/18). As a result of the application of the modified system and the estimated global levels of regular resources available for programmes in 2004, the level of regular resources planned for eight countries whose programme cycles end in 2004 is higher than the balance of approved regular resources available to these countries.

The Executive Director *recommends* that the Executive Board approve allocations of additional regular resources in the total amount of $2,208,730 to fund the approved country programmes of eight countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Zimbabwe) for 2004, whose regular resources planning levels, based on the modified allocation system and estimated global levels of programmable regular resources, are higher than the balance of approved funds for these countries.

* E/ICEF/2003/11.

03-44415 (E) 050803

I. Introduction

1. The regular resources planning levels for eight countries whose programme cycles end in 2004 are higher than the balances of approved regular resources, as a result of the application of the modified system for allocation of regular resources and revised projections of global levels of regular resources available for allocation to country programmes in 2004. The table below sets out the balance of approved regular resources available to these countries, and the additional amount of regular resources for which approval is needed to reach the planning level.

Regular resources, 2003

(In United States dollars)

Region/Country	*Balance of approved RR 2004 (A)*	*RR planning level 2004 (B)*	*Amount to be approved (B-A)*
Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic States			
Armenia	632 950	681 000	48 050
Azerbaijan	938 000	956 000	18 000
Kazakhstan	965 063	978 000	12 937
Kyrgyzstan	650 000	922 000	272 000
Turkmenistan	693 000	947 000	254 000
Uzbekistan	1 304 000	1 841 000	537 000
Subtotal	**5 183 013**	**6 325 000**	**1 141 987**
Middle East and North Africa			
Iraq	1 345 283	1 839 000	493 717
Subtotal	**1 345 283**	**1 839 000**	**493 717**
Eastern and Southern Africa			
Zimbabwe	1 340 974	1 914 000	573 026
Subtotal	**1 340 974**	**1 914 000**	**573 026**
Total	**7 869 270**	**10 078 000**	**2 208 730**

II. Recommendation for additional regular resources

A. Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic States

Armenia

2. The country programme for Armenia, covering the period 2000-2004 (E/ICEF/1999/P/L.12/Add.1), was approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session of 1999 with an allocation of $3,430,000 in regular resources (E/ICEF/1999/7/Rev.1, decision 1999/13). The increased planning level for 2004

provides the programme with an additional $48,050 from regular resources, for which approval is sought.

3. The overall aim of country programme is to support national and local authorities, communities and families in fulfilling their responsibilities to children as defined by the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Declaration of the World Summit for Children and the Armenian Law on the Rights of the Child. The additional regular resources will be used in the health and nutrition programme to strengthen further the programmes for control of diarrhoeal diseases, acute respiratory infections and the expanded programme on immunization (EPI) through continued support to the accelerated in-service training of paediatricians and nurses and the introduction of relevant World Health Organization protocols into the curricula of pre-service training institutes.

Azerbaijan

4. The country programme for Azerbaijan, covering the period 2000-2004 (E/ICEF/1999/P/L.13/Add.1), was approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session of 1999 with an allocation of $4,519,000 in regular resources (E/ICEF/1999/7/Rev1., decision 1999/13). The increased planning level for 2004 provides the programme with an additional $18,000 from regular resources, for which approval is sought.

5. Among the objectives of the country programme are the facilitation of the realization of children's and women's rights, support to the needs of vulnerable communities and the strengthening of the Government's social delivery systems. The additional funds will allow UNICEF to provide increased support to the training of teachers and social workers dealing with disabled children, especially those with communication difficulties.

The Central Asian republics and Kazakhstan

6. The country programmes for the Central Asian republics and Kazakhstan, covering the period 2000-2004 (E/ICEF/1999/P/L.15/Add.1), were approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session of 1999 with an allocation of $26,976,000 in regular resources (E/ICEF/1999/7/Rev.1, decision 1999/13). From the total regular resources allocation, Kazakhstan was allocated $4,500,000; Kyrgyzstan, $4,038,000; Tajikistan, $6,080,000; Turkmenistan, $4,288,000; and Uzbekistan, $8,070,000.

7. The Central Asian republics and Kazakhstan share the following area-wide goals: (a) to support accessibility and efficiency of basic social services for children and women, including the development of innovative policies and cost-effective approaches; (b) to develop further and implement a rights-based, integrated approach to the survival and development of children and adolescents; (c) to empower families and social-sector professionals to act more effectively in support of child health, development, protection and participation by enhancing responsibility, knowledge and initiative; and (d) to support civil society development and capacity-building of national non-governmental organizations and institutions for children and women.

8. The increased planning level for 2004 provides the **Kazakhstan** programme with an additional $12,937 from regular resources, for which approval is sought. These funds will be divided among the three programmes that make up the country programme. The programme for mother and child survival, development and protection will receive $4,937 to support the Government in the development of advocacy and communication strategies and packages on better parenting as an integral part of early childhood development. The child enrichment programme will receive $4,000 to provide technical support to the Government in setting up the social work system through the revision of the university curriculum on the training of social workers. The remaining $4,000 will support the young people's well-being programme through the scaling-up of the "youth-friendly" services pilot project to national level.

9. The increased planning level for 2004 provides the **Kyrgyzstan** programme with an additional $272,000 from regular resources, for which approval is sought. The mother and child survival, development and protection programme will be allocated an additional $100,000 to cover the costs of continued research and advocacy on iodine deficiency disorders and the purchase of iron and folic acid tablets. An additional $95,000 will be allocated to the child enrichment programme to review child protection reform which has been initiated by the Government, and to start community-based integrated social services for children and their families. The young people's well-being programme will be allocated the remaining $77,000 to support a legislative and administrative framework on juvenile justice and restorative justice, and support to the preparation of a "child-friendly" national budget and paper on reduction of child poverty.

10. The increased planning level for 2004 provides the **Turkmenistan** programme with an additional $254,000 from regular resources, for which approval is sought. The additional funds will be divided among the three programmes and to support cross-sectoral costs. The mother and child survival, development and protection programme will receive an additional $80,000 to develop and disseminate information and communication materials for parents on childcare practices, and to train national-level trainers on essential obstetrics. An additional $70,000 will be allocated to the child enrichment programme for advocacy on "child-friendly" schools, and for the continued rehabilitation of water and sanitation facilities in schools. The young people's well-being programme will receive $80,000 for the establishment of "youth-friendly" services, and for support to the centre for psychosocial care of disadvantaged children. The remaining $24,000 will be allocated to cross-sectoral costs to monitor project activities.

11. The increased planning level for 2004 provides the **Uzbekistan** programme with an additional $537,000 from regular resources, for which approval is sought. The bulk of the funds, $363,000 will be used by the mother and child survival, development and protection programme to sustain immunization coverage rates at 90 per cent or higher by improving the quality of vaccination services in targeted areas through in-service training and improvements to the cold-chain system. The child enrichment programme will be allocated an additional $49,000 to evaluate and document the first phase of the global education initiative. Under the young people's well-being programme, $64,000 will be used to establish "youth-friendly" centres. The remaining $61,000 will cover the costs to monitor project activities.

B. Middle East and North Africa

Iraq

12. The short duration country programme for Iraq, covering the period 2002-2004 (E/ICEF/2001/P/L.71), was approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session of 2001 with an allocation of $5,233,000 in regular resources (E/ICEF/2001/6, decision 2001/14). The increased planning level for 2004 provides the programme with an additional $493,717 from regular resources, for which approval is sought.

13. The overall goal of the country programme is to support efforts to ensure child survival, protection and development; to keep children's and women's concerns high on the agenda; and to support the realization of the principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women.

14. Early in 2003, UNICEF undertook preparedness and contingency planning with a focus on implementing preventive actions to protect children in the event of a conflict. These included polio, "mop-up" measles and diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus immunization campaigns benefiting 4.2 million children under age five years, provision of high-energy biscuits and therapeutic milk to 400,000 malnourished children and repair of back-up generators for water and sewage treatment plants.

15. As part of the United Nations post-conflict humanitarian response, UNICEF has appealed for a total of $182.7 million, of which $113.6 million (62 per cent) have been secured. The strategic priorities of the humanitarian response are consistent with the goals of the country programme approved in 2001 and include strengthening the institutional capacity of national water authorities while continuing to improve service delivery; rehabilitation and maintenance of water and environmental sanitation facilities; reactivation of the health sector through capacity-building, especially at primary level; revitalization of preventive and curative nutrition services at community level and addressing micronutrient deficiencies at national level; facilitating the return to school of all Iraqi children for the next school year; supporting the development of a protective environment for children through building the capacities of national institutions to promote the norms of the two Conventions; and protecting children from the dangers of unexploded ordnance, landmines and ammunition by raising awareness of communities and children themselves.

16. In addition, UNICEF is actively engaged in reconstruction efforts though participation in the ongoing needs assessment (in fact taking the lead in the water supply and sanitation component), and is an active partner in the assessment of reconstruction priorities in the areas of primary education, health, nutrition, mine action, protection of vulnerable groups and juvenile justice.

17. The additional funds will complement and supplement the ongoing humanitarian and reconstruction efforts. They will be distributed evenly among the components of the country programme and will be used to support the intensification of sectoral programme activities. Funds for the health and nutrition, and water and sanitation programmes will be used on interventions to protect children against vaccine-preventable and water-borne diseases. The education programme will receive additional funds to increase the levels of school attendance,

particularly among girls, and to provide non-formal education opportunities. The additional funds for the child protection programme will be used to expand psychosocial activities for distressed children, and to promote community-based responses to children in need of special protection measures.

C. Eastern and Southern Africa

Zimbabwe

18. The country programme for Zimbabwe, covering the period 2000-2004 (E/ICEF/1999/P/L.8/Add.1), was approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session in September 1999 with an allocation of $8,391,000 in regular resources (E/ICEF/1999/7/Rev.1, decision 1999/13). The increased planning level for 2004 provides the programme with an additional $573,026 from regular resources, for which approval is sought.

19. The overall objective of the country programme is to support child survival, development, protection and participation by contributing to the reduction of the incidence and impact of HIV/AIDS. The overall strategy for achieving the objective is to support key actors in their efforts to prevent HIV/AIDS and to realize children's rights. The additional resources will be used to support critical interventions in the health and HIV/AIDS programmes, and to strengthen monitoring, evaluation and research interventions. An additional $220,000 will be given to the health programme to support vaccine procurement, revitalize the EPI delivery system and strengthen the capacity of partners. The HIV/AIDS programme will receive an additional $250,000 to scale up its response to the epidemic. The remaining $103,026 will be used to monitor and evaluate programme interventions.